

TRIBUTE TO ELFEBO BACA

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, many of us have spoken at great length about the cowards responsible for the bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma City. With all this talk about cowards, I thought it might be helpful to remind my colleagues that while our country is plagued with cowards from time to time, we have a rich history of heroes and famous sons and daughters. One such famous son is Elfego Baca who to this day—more than 110 years after his remarkable feat in New Mexico—is still remembered fondly by New Mexicans.

An encounter between Elfego Baca and some Texas cowboys in the fall of 1884 has to many in the New Mexico Hispanic community resulted in the elevation of Baca to heroic status.

Elfego Baca was born the youngest child to a family of Spanish ancestry in 1865. During his youth, he held a job as a clerk in a merchant's store in Socorro County, NM. Several years later in 1883, Baca experienced his first introduction to the legal side of law enforcement.

Socorro County was undergoing rapid economic growth with the development of the Santa Fe Railroad. This expansion brought new faces to the area—laborers, miners, and ranchers to name a few. Many of the Texan newcomers held the local native community in low esteem. These cattlemen would often ride inebriated through town while shooting their guns. Obviously this posed a dangerous problem to the safety of the community so Sheriff Simpson called on Baca to help chase the cowboys out of town. Consequently, Elfego was appointed deputy sheriff for Socorro County.

It is still a mystery why Baca travelled to San Francisco Plaza in October 1884, but his confrontation with some Texas cowboys is what made him a legend. Shortly after arriving, deputy Baca encountered Charles McCarthy who was firing his pistol in a local saloon. Baca quickly took control and brought McCarthy to the justice of peace. McCarthy paid a fine and was released, but again repeated his lawless actions and was again arrested by Baca. McCarthy had fired his gun directly at Baca, so the deputy decided to guard the drunk prisoner in a private house in town. This enraged the other Texas cowboys and created an enormously tense scenario between them and deputy Baca. That night, a mob of stockmen threatened Baca for the release of McCarthy, but the deputy declined and held off their advances. It finally came to a head when Baca fired shots to disperse the mob and shot a horse which one of the cowboy's was riding, pinning the rider and crushing him to death.

The cattlemen used the following day to muster up their forces in retaliation of their comrade's death. Baca meanwhile hid in a small shack just outside town. When the cowboys finally tried to storm the house, Baca fired at the intruders, hitting one man in the chest and killing him. The infuriated gang of Texas cowboys that had congregated outside

returned fire at the house but were unable to dislodge Baca from his fortification.

Finally after nearly a day of hiding out, the justice of peace issued an arrest warrant for Deputy Sheriff Baca. Baca surrendered under the condition that his life be spared from the cowboy mob and that he receive a fair trial in Bernalillo County with an Hispanic jury. Baca was acquitted under the grounds of self-defense.

The story of Elfego Baca demonstrates a man's will to preserve justice in a land and time of rampant corruption and bullying. Baca's bravery instilled hope to the native New Mexican people who upheld the laws of the land and refused to succumb to racial injustices.

I urge my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Elfego Baca and the countless numbers of other American heroes and famous sons and daughters who have helped make this country great.

TRIBUTE TO THE BERNIE V. GUTHRIE SQUADRON

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bernie V. Guthrie Squadron, a charter member of the Arnold Air Society, located on the campus of South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD. The Guthrie Squadron was established in 1951, and named in honor of Capt. Bernie V. Guthrie, an Air Force pilot who was shot down over Hamm, Germany during World War II.

Since its establishment, the Bernie V. Guthrie Squadron has had an outstanding record of accomplishment and community service. The squadron instituted an annual veterans vigil, which began as a local project in the late 1980's and was expanded into a permanent nationwide project in 1991. In addition, the Guthrie Squadron sold POW/MIA bracelets at South Dakota State University to increase student awareness of POW/MIA issues, and instituted a POW/MIA name tracing project which included all area squadrons.

The Guthrie Squadron has also served the community and the State by organizing blood drives, participating in the Big Brother/Big Sister Program, and working with handicapped children and adults. It has received numerous honors, including the Outstanding Squadron of 1992, the Outstanding State Service Award, and the Jaycees Community Service Award.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the achievements of the Bernie V. Guthrie Squadron, and to encourage the squadron to continue its long and proud tradition of service in South Dakota.

HONORING THE CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Croatian Sons

Lodge No. 170 of the Croatian Fraternal Union on the festive occasion of its 87th anniversary and 50-year-member banquet.

This year, the Croatian Fraternal Union will hold this gala event at the beautifully renovated Croatian Center in Merrillville, IN. Traditionally, the anniversary ceremony includes a recognition of those members who have achieved 50 years of membership. Honorees who have pledged their allegiance include: Vincent Brebrich, Bessie Briski, Marko Buncich, Edward Carija, John William Carr, Vera Depa, Julia Farrenkopf, Rose Marie Franz, Helen Griffin, Peter Hecimovich, Mildred Kennedy, Helen Lucas, John Mezmarick, Lubi Paligraf, Steve Paulich, Violet Plummer, Delores Roppolo, John Simunic, Frank Sostaric, Ann Stankovic, Marie Vucich, Anna Wilson, and Peter Yukich.

These loyal and dedicated individuals share this prestigious honor with a total of 256 additional lodge members who have attained this status.

This memorable day begins with Mass at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church in Gary, IN, officiated by the Reverend Father Benedict Benakovich. Croatian Fraternal Union national president, Bernard Luketich, will be this year's distinguished guest speaker. Festivities will be enriched by the music of the Croatian Glee Club, "Preradovic," directed by Brother Dennis Barunica and by the Hoosier Hrvati Adult Tamburitza Orchestra, directed by Ed Sindich. In addition, the Croatian Junior Tamburitians will perform under the direction of Dennis Barunica.

I am proud to commend lodge president, Elizabeth Morgavan, as well as every member of the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge No. 170, for their loyalty and radiant display of passion for their ethnicity. It is my hope that this year will bring renewed hope and prosperity for all members of the Croatian community and their families.

CONGRATULATIONS ADAMSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ED BRYANT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Adamsville High School Cardinals for the outstanding 1994-95 basketball season they enjoyed.

It gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to one of the outstanding high schools in the State of Tennessee, and at this time, to specially recognize their runner-up status in the Tennessee State Basketball Tournament in Mufreesboro, TN.

Head Coach Greg Martin, in his first year in that capacity, directed the team, with the able assistance of Assistant Coach Rick Coffman. Coach Martin won the District 15A Coach of the Year Award for his outstanding effort.

At a time when some question the commitment and work ethic of our youth, those 15 young men dispelled that myth with their team efforts. Led by All-State Tournament Team member Matt Hoover, the Cardinals also included Michael Cleary, Tony Engle, Jon Luna, Casey Meek, B.J. Sherron, Chad Wyatt, Tracy

Carter, Nick Ernest, John Hoover, Luke Rogers, Dexter Chambers, John Massey, Steven Moore, and George Root.

Also to be commended for this outstanding year are the school principal, Mark Massey; athletic director, Fred Carroll; and cheerleaders Christy Carroll, Stephanie Gibbs, Dana James, Brook Garner, Keesha Bromley, and Tracey Harris.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all members join me in paying tribute to the Adamsville High School basketball team as it celebrates another outstanding season and such fine leadership and all-around young men.

H.R. 1601; THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1995

HON. ROBERT S. WALKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 1601, The International Space Station Authorization Act of 1995. Mr. Speaker, this legislation will firmly establish America's fundamental commitment to human spaceflight for decades to come by committing the Congress to finish the international Space Station on time and on budget.

How often in the past 5 years has this House devoted its precious time and conducted purposeful debates on the fate of the Space Station, only to conclude each time to continue building it? Mr. Speaker, the House has consistently voted to support Space Station's development every time since it was proposed in 1984—under Republican and Democratic Presidents, through four significant redesign efforts, and under equally distressing fiscal circumstances.

In November, the American people voted for change in the way Congress does business. Surely the American people want Congress to stop wasting money on programs and subsidies they can neither see nor understand. But I believe the succession of votes the House has taken over 10 years to build the Space Station demonstrates the consternation over building it, lays only with some Members of the House, and not with the American people.

This legislation, to commit the Nation to finish what it has started, is a new way of doing business. It represents a change in the way Congress does business because it says, "here is our highest space priority, and we're going to finish it." Passage of a full-program authorization for the Space Station will be a breath of fresh air to those who have watched in amazement while successive Congresses have revisited, revised, and reinvented the Space Station year after year.

Mr. Speaker, the American people aren't among those who "know the price of everything and the value of nothing." Human space exploration is an adventure that affects us all in big and small ways. Space is and has always been an integral part of our science, our popular culture, and our science fiction. Americans are committed to a future for themselves and their children that includes space travel. So it is with a sense of triumph for that pioneer spirit that I am proud to introduce this

legislation today, setting our priorities to make certain a future in space for this Nation.

The mechanics of this legislation to fully authorize the Space Station are simple. It gives the National Aeronautics and Space Administration the authority to proceed on its current, baseline Space Station development plan, extending from fiscal year 1996 through fiscal year 2002—for a total of \$13,141,000,000, not to exceed \$2,121,000,000 in any one fiscal year. The authorization is conditioned upon each year's success, meaning that NASA must stay on budget and on time for the legislation to remain effective.

As you can imagine, the best of all worlds would be to fully appropriate these funds in a full-program appropriation to mirror this legislation. We hope this can be done. This legislation is the first step towards the goal of achieving discipline and stability in the Space Station program.

By setting these norms and requirements in law—today we are still only working from NASA's word to the Congress—and making a contract with NASA for completion, I am convinced Congress and the American people will save money. The on-again, off-again nature of making space station budgets has increased the cost of the space station from \$8 billion, as proposed in 1984, to \$30 billion before the final redesign of the project last year. Most of that nearly 4-to-1 cost growth can be attributed to redesigns and fiscal stretch-outs called for by actions taken by the Congress.

Today, the space station will cost \$13,141,000,000 to complete and begin operations, between fiscal years 1996 through 2002. This is a significant savings over earlier designs and projections. The redesign of 1993 was a redesign aimed at cost reduction, not cost stretch-out, while at the same time limiting the annual total to \$2.1 billion.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we have seen enough of no good deed goes unpunished. NASA has succeeded in arriving at a design-to-cost space station that America can afford and in which that all nations can fully participate. Shall we reward NASA's success in this effort by redesigning the program again? If I were not convinced that this was the best space station attainable under the constraints we have given NASA and given ourselves, Mr. Speaker, I would not be able to offer this legislation today.

I would like to stress to my colleagues the compelling need for such a full-program authorization at this time.

First, let us agree there is no cheaper program for building a space station than this one. NASA looked in depth at three radically different redesign proposals and chose this approach in consultation with President Clinton. This is the bare bones space station Congress has been searching for, and it has been achieved with minimal sacrifices in capability. In fact, I am happy to report that the current design will offer more laboratory space and more power than any of the previous designs. But this is not a design that can be trimmed without radical restructure, and that is why the legislation requires a full program authorization. If we are to avoid wasting another nickel, a full program authorized to completion is necessary now.

Second, but also related to cost, is facing the question of human space development. Failing to complete this space station within the safe operational life of the space shuttle

will constrain America to a humanless space program. I submit we are always at a critical juncture when it comes to keeping people in space. The human space program is expensive, always has been, and always will be, until it becomes a normal part of everyday life. Yet, if raiding the space station program as though it were the cash cow to fund other programs within NASA, or elsewhere in the Federal budget, is something Congress wants to do, it must be made aware of the consequence: America will abandon flying people in space except on Russian space systems. If we raid the space station budget, it will cause delays that I fear will extend beyond the space shuttle's planned operational life.

Another situation that requires us to act is the international nature of our partnership. We are committed by this design to cooperate in depth with the Russian space program, and that means we must be good partners not just do-gooders. It is of particular importance to them, to Europe, Japan, and to Canada, that Congress show it has chosen to move forward—not just for another year, but until the job is done. No other government in the solar system undertakes to build something of this scope and scale on a year-to-year basis. A full-program authorization will help focus the attention of the international partnership on those questions that affect the station's operations.

Finally, and this is profound in the context of today's budget battles, President Clinton chose the Space Station project alone to be spared from NASA's other budget cuts. That's right, Mr. Speaker, the President's tax-cut will not be funded by killing off America's future in space. This is important news, since the President's budget proposes significant cuts to NASA in general, but exempts the Space Station in particular. I believe the President has told Congress what I am saying here: Space Station is the highest national priority in space today and we must finish the job.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in both parties that now is the time to either make the commitment to finish this important project or to abandon it. I believe the weight of the arguments and the success of past votes indicates the Space Station will win our full support. In the spirit of changing the way we do business and in response to President Clinton's leadership in supporting the Space Station as an international partnership, I believe that time has come to commit Congress to America's future: Space Station.

SALUTE TO SONNY DRIVER

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

Mr. FOGLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Sonny Driver, the publisher of Scoop, U.S.A., "The Community Peoples Newspaper," which reaches communities throughout the Philadelphia area.

Sonny Driver has always been closely connected to the heartbeat of the city of Philadelphia. Throughout his work in the management and promotion of some of our Nation's top entertainers, Mr. Driver saw a need for the exposure of minority entertainers and community